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OLC #78-1033/7

9 June 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

SUBJECT : Glossary of Intelligence Terms

1. The unclassified interagency Glossary of Intelligence Terms and Definitions is at the printers and will soon be disseminated throughout the Intelligence Community. It is published by the Intelligence Community Staff for the Director of Central Intelligence with the advice of the National Foreign Intelligence Board.
2. In April, during the review of the body of the Glossary, many agencies joined with CIA in questioning Admiral Turner's proposed revision of the definition of "national intelligence." Also a number of less controversial suggestions and proposals were referred to the interagency Intelligence Definitions Working Group for consideration. Subsequently, the DCI accepted the original Working Group definition of "national intelligence" (which is acceptable to CIA and to others) and also authorized the publication of the Glossary upon completion of Working Group deliberations.
3. Several points about the Glossary need to be underscored. First, quoting from the Preface, the "publication is designed to be a reference and guidance document for inter-departmental communications and understanding within the Intelligence Community and as it communicates with other Executive Branch organizations and with the Congress and the Judiciary." Use of the definitions provided in the Glossary is not mandatory. Second, "the definitions in this Glossary may not coincide precisely with definitions used elsewhere for departmental or legal purposes, especially where definitions were devised for the purpose of supporting and clarifying the language of a legal document." Such "alternative definitions" are included in Appendix B. Third, proposed additions, deletions, and revisions may be offered at any time, and the entire Glossary will be carefully reviewed at least annually.
4. Having served as the CIA Member of the Working Group, I much appreciate the support provided by many CIA officers. The suggestions received have all been carefully considered by the Working Group and most CIA proposals have been adopted.

[Redacted Signature]

CIA Member  
Intelligence Definitions Working Group

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